

 Patent Application Serial No. 08/981,110, filed March 13, 1998, now United States Patent No. 6,242,381, issued on June 5, 2001.--

The marked-up version of the replacement paragraph is attached on a separate sheet.

**REMARKS**

The specification has been amended herewith so as to correctly reflect priority.

Notwithstanding a United States Patent and Trademark Office annotation regarding a possible inconsistency, the priority recitation above is correct and is consistent with the Official Filing Receipt.

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required by 37 CFR § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. Please refund any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0650.

Respectfully submitted,

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**PATENT APPLICATION**  
SERIAL NO.: 10/087,024  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 702-020310

The marked-up version of the replacement specification paragraph is as follows:

Page 1, under the Title of the Invention:

**CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a continuation-in-part of [U.S.] United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/717,872, filed [September 28, 2001] November 21, 2000, which [is a continuing application of U.S. Application] claims the benefit of continuing United States Patent Application Serial No. 08/981,110, filed March 13, 1998, now United States Patent No. 6,242,381, issued on June 5, 2001.